EQUAL RIGHTS

"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"

Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY, Washington, D. C.

Vol. 27, No. 5 MAY, 1941

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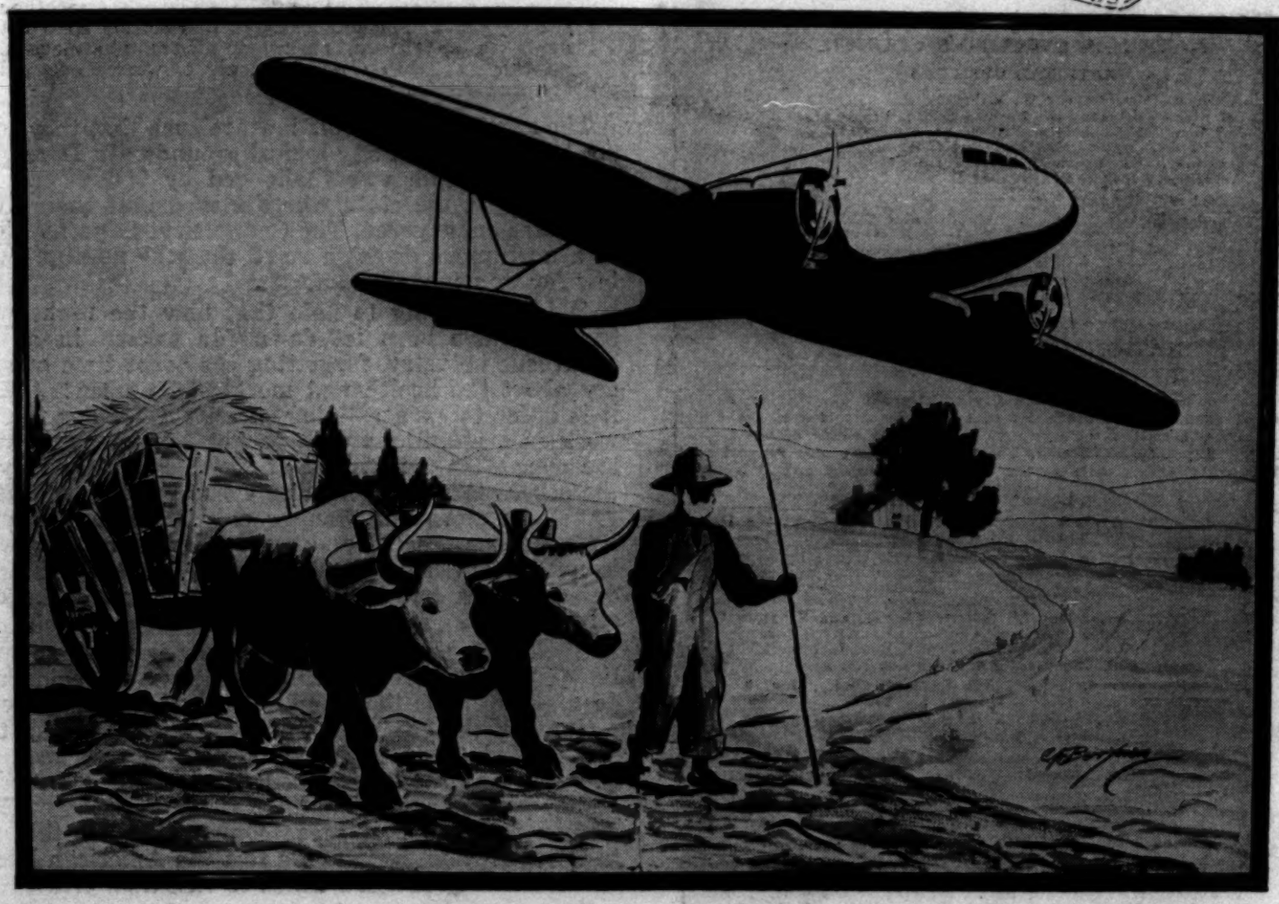
Which Method Do You Choose?



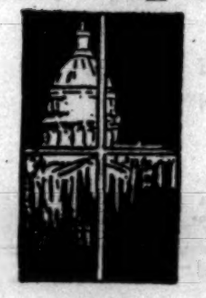
WOMEN have been dreaming of equal rights with men for 100 years, from 1840 when Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton planned the first equal rights convention until now—

At this crisis in the world's history do you believe in the: *Air Ship Method of Progress or The Ox Cart Method of Progress?*

Do you believe in a constitutional amendment reading: "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction" which will give women a Constitutional status, they do not now enjoy, and will be permanent, or

Do you believe in permitting women to depend for the security of their rights as citizens on the fluctuating will or whim of state legislatures? That is ox-cart progress. Or shall we conserve the pattern of our American Democracy by guaranteeing women's equality of opportunity constitutionally? This is air ship progress. We are at the crossroads. Shall we travel the road of yesterday by ox-cart or the road of today by airship. It is up to all of us to decide!

Equal Rights



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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

OBJECT

To secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships—in particular to secure the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, and the adherence of the United States to the Equal Rights Treaty. The Woman's Party also supports the proposed Equality Amendments to the Covenant of the League of Nations.

THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"Art. 1—Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Art. 2.—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Introduced

Senate—By Senator Guy M. Gillette (Iowa), and Senators W. J. Bulow (S. D.), Arthur Capper (Kans.), Gerald P. Nye (N. D.), Millard E. Tydings (Md.), Geo. L. Radcliffe (Md.), Jan. 6, 1939, (Senate Joint Resolution No. 8).

House—By Representative Louis Ludlow, (Ind.), Jan. 3, 1941, (House Joint Resolution No. 2).

By Representative U. S. Guyer, (Kans.), Jan. 3, 1941, (House Joint Resolution No. 16).

By Representative Bartel J. Jonkman, Jan. 3, 1941, (House Joint Resolution No. 93).

Present Status

Senate—Before the Sub-Committee of the Judiciary consisting of Senators James H. Hughes of Delaware, Ernest W. McFarland of Arizona and Warren R. Austin of Vermont.

House—Before the Third Sub-Committee of the Judiciary consisting of Representatives Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania, Joseph R. Bryson of South Carolina, William R. Thom, of Ohio, John W. Gwynne of Iowa, and Albert L. Vreeland of New Jersey.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY

"Art. 1—The contracting States agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their respective jurisdictions."

Signed

By Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, at Montevideo, December, 1933.

PROPOSED EQUALITY AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged on the ground of sex."

The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice regarding nationality."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries men and women shall have equal rights in all other fields."

"The members of the League undertake that there shall be both men and women, with full voting powers, in all delegations to the Council and Assembly of the League and to all Conferences under the auspices of the League."

Present Status

Before the League of Nations Committee on Status of Women.

An Anomaly

The Connecticut law prohibiting women and minors from working betwen 10 p. m. and 6 a. m. in manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishments, has been suspended by the Governor in case of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company because women are needed in this emergency. According to the superintendent of personnel at the Winchester plant women were better fitted for inspectors and gaugers than men and the law had prevented their working on the night shift.

The Connecticut Code provides in Sec. 1319 E as follows:

> Sec. 1319 E. Night work of minors and women. (1) No female nor any minor under eighteen years of age shall be employed in any manufacturing, mechanical or mercantile establishment between the hours of ten o'clock in the evening and six o'clock in the morning. In the event of war or other serious emergency, the governor may suspend the limitations upon evening or night work contained in this section as to any industries or occupations as he may find such emergency shall demand. The provisions of this section shall not apply to physicians, surgeons, nurses, pharmacists, attorneys at law and teachers, nor to women engaged in social service work."

The applications of this law are such that they could not be defended on any logical grounds. In December, 1939, the statute was challenged by 700 women entertainers in the state who declared that their livelihood was endangered. The Connecticut Supreme Court in a unanimous decision ruled that the no-night-work law for women was valid.

It is interesting to note that now the night work barriers have been let down for women in a very hazardous industry, forgetting the peace time hue and cry about the health and morals of women! Clearly it is safer to earn a living as an entertainer than to work in a munitions factory, yet women may not do the one, after ten o'clock at night, and they may do the other. Why? A working woman writes and asks: "Are our morals in danger only when our country isn't, or are we to ignore morality when our work is needed? Will our health be safe while working on defense work but in danger when working for ourselves?"

Obviously, there is but one answer to these questions. The only reason that women are forbidden to do night work is that men do not wish them as competitors in the economic world. The only reason they are invited to do night work now is that men are being taken into the armed services or are finding higher paid jobs elsewhere, so that the night work of women is in no real sense competition. Is this fair to women? Is it justice? Is this the American liberty for which they are now asked to risk their lives?

When women succeed in securing their just demands for equality by constitutional amendment, they are helping the Nation. They are helping to promote a sounder economy, without the great shifts which in the long run help to bring on crises. When the equal rights amendment is passed women can exercise the basic right of all Americans—the right to work and to choose their work. Without that right there can be no free America.

Women must win that equality now. When the arms program is finished and the war is over, women will face the same crisis they face after every war—the crisis of "Run home, little girl, run home."

Protect women by passing the equal rights amendment now. "Work while it is yet day; the night cometh when no man can work."

A. K. W.

Do Women Want Protection?

The objection to special legislation is not on the ground that no protection is necessary, but because partial laws have not protected men and have thrown women out of employment or crowded them into the lower grades of work. Then, too, linking women with minors as is the rule in protective legislation forwarded by welfare workers has been a marked disadvantage in checking child labor. Legislatures would do more for children if adult women ceased to hang on their necks.

Time marches on but the idea of wrapping women in cotton wool still prevails as it did years ago. Quoting from a report by Harriot Stanton Blatch on a Labor Conference held in Washington, January, 1923, by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor.

> Secretary Davis megaphoned the order: "Take out of industry those mothers with babes to care for," and Miss Sophonisba P. Breckinridge echoed the command and added that the ejected mothers "must be supported out of their husband's earnings." It is humbly suggested that all mothers are not married, that husbands sometimes are unemployed, and that, occasionally, a kindly fate allows them to escape from the propagandist into the grave. For a few hours it was thought the woman might support herself and children with factory work in the home. But that way out was closed as soon as Mrs. Florence Kelley took the rostrum. Home work—not the unpaid variety—was denounced. Mother was left in limbo.

It is comforting to awake from the nightmare of the Washington Conference to the realities of government reports. In the British report on "Women in Industry," (1919), Miss Martindale, Senior Lady Inspector in the Midland District, says that expectant mothers "generally speaking do not seem to suffer harm from working in factories," and Clementina Black adds, "The greatest assistance to maternity is for women to be earning good wages." The famous Birmingham, England, investigation (1919) reaches the conclusion that poverty is more injurious to the child than the employment of the mother, and the Manchester, New Hampshire, investigation (1917) declares that the employment of the mother may "add to the disadvantages which the baby suffers on account of poverty or mitigate them according to whether the loss of the mother's care is offset or not by the added income. Perhaps the wisest solution of the problem is that the state should offer to pay the mother of small children the equivalent of the wage she is earning, and allow her to choose whether she will remain at home and take the pension, or refuse it and continue her gainful pursuit."

The Washington Conference was as emphatic on the wisdom of a minimum wage as it was on the disposal of the married worker. But in the exhaustive study issued by Columbia University on "Women's Wages" (1919), we read in regard to the working of the minimum wage in Australia: "On the whole question of the influence of wage legislation on the wage scale, great caution must be used in interpreting results. . . . Conflicting evidence or complete lack of evidence marks almost every point in the controversy."

It would be well if those believing in protective legislation should unite on this program: First, the total exclusion of children from industry. Second, the drastice limitation of the hours of young people. Third, the sweeping away all special provisions of differentiating men from women.

Working women are ready for equality. It is the welfare worker who holds up to them the inferiority complex.

MAUD DUVAL WILLIAMS.

The Garden Of Alva Belmont House

HONORING MME. BALSAN

The late Eighteenth Century garden of Alva Belmont House, headquarters of the National Woman's Party, was the scene of a tea Friday, April 18, in honor of Mme. Jacques Balsan. Mme. Balsan is the daughter of the late Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, who gave the house to the National Woman's Party. Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, National Chairman, said, "Mrs. Belmont was one of the greatest benefactors of women the world has ever known. We deem it a pleasure of the greatest magnitude to have as our guest her daughter, Mme. Balsan."

Mrs. Emma Guffey Miller poured tea under ancient magnolia trees in full bloom, with dogwoods and peach trees close by. Guests at the tea included Alice Paul, founder and chairman of the World Woman's Party; Mrs. Hamilton Fish, Mrs. Millard Tydings, Mrs. William A. Bailey, wife of the editor of the Kansas City *Kansan;* Miss Laura Berrien, Mrs. Avery Coonley, Mrs. Edna Capewell, Miss Mabel Vernon, Mrs. Karl Greene, Mrs. Burnita Sheldon Matthews, Mrs. Clyde Garrett, Mrs. Edward R. Burke and Mrs. U. S. Guyer.

* * *

VIRGINIA STATE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

The Garden was the scene, Friday, April 25th, of a tea in honor of the Neighborhood Garden Club of Arlington County when the National Woman's Party entertained this organization and the members of Piedmont District of the Virginia State Federation of Garden Clubs.

The tea climaxed a day of social activity for this garden group, a luncheon at the Washington Golf and Country Club, a tour of the Haines Point cherry trees and a visit to the National Art Gallery.

Receiving with Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, National Chairman, were: Mrs. Elsie Graff, Chairman of the Virginia Branch of the N. W. P.; Mrs. E. N. Bunting, President of D. of C. Garden Club; Mrs. Lorraine Blair, Chairman of the Illinois Branch of the N. W. P.; Mrs. Edna Capewell of the Business and Professional Woman's Club of New York; Mrs. Lucy Cooper Shaw, Chairman of the D. of C. Branch of the N. W. P. and Mrs. Dora Ogle, Business Manager of Equal Rights Magazine.

Among the Virginia ladies attending the tea were: Mrs. Frank L. Ball, Mrs. E. T. Puller of South Hill, regional vice-president of the Piedmont District; Mrs. Claude O. Thomas, president of the Neighborhood Garden Club; Mrs. Lucian Curry, State President of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs; Miss Janet Steward Durham, State Chairman of Horticulture Society and member of the Ginter Park Garden Club of Richmond; Mrs. Newton C. Wing, Press Chairman of the Piedmont Division and General Chairman of the day's meeting. Others of the group who attended the tea were: Mrs. W. M. Anderson, Mrs. J. Kenneth Ableiter, Mrs. E. H. Coulson, Mrs. Harry Ball, Mrs. Virginia Pollard Working and Miss Grace Gaumitz.

* * *

FAIRHOPE DANCERS

The Garden presented a festive appearance Sunday, May 4th, when the famous Fairhope dancers entertained with a program of English folk-dancing on the lawn.

The nine High School boys from the world-famous Fairhope School came to Washington to take part in the National Folk Festival in Constitution Hall. They

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Extracts From "She Made Moan To Her Pewfellow"

By MARGARET T. APPLEGARTH.

THIS lovely but lugubrious title goes back across the centuries to a catalogue of "Words, Phrases, Names and Illusions" collected by a man named Nares from the works of William Shakespeare and his contemporaries. "Being one day at church she made moan to her pewfellow" is the quotation; it is exhilarating to hazard a guess about what might have made the poor lady make such an ecclesiastical to-do, for recently a similar moan has been sounding across the length and breadth of these United States to enough pewfellows, so that, at the request of the Women's Cooperating Commission of the Federal Council of Churches, a study has been made of "Woman's Status in Protestant Churches." And lo, the moan is justified!

* * *

(NOTE. Here follows a summary of the answers to the questionnaire sent to 5,380 churchwomen of ten denominations seeking their opinions whether women should serve on church boards, etc. This information was ably summarized for us by Oliver Hurlburt and appeared in EQUAL RIGHTS, March issue, 1941, page 19).

To someone like myself, born in a parsonage, reared in a church atmosphere, eating every meal to an accompaniment of comment about parish affairs in a large city church, keenly interested and actively absorbed in each phase of the work, growing into interdenominational relationships before long, the whole question simmers down to one item: What is the church, anyhow?

If you say PEOPLE: *"people joined together in a common search for God, seeking to practice a Christian way of life in order to bring the Kingdom of God on earth—beginning in the particular community where they are, and reaching out to the ends of the earth"*—then indeed any discrimination against women on any church board is a distinct discourtesy. One of the finest feathers in the cap of a minister on the Sunday when he raises money for missions is the sweeping truthfulness of the fact that *wherever* the Christian faith has gone, the status of womanhood has been raised instantly—due to the amazing reverence for the personality of women which the Master Himself showed. By saying this often enough and vigorously enough the minister has done an odd thing to the women in the pews: They wonder why women have managed to gain recognition in civic affairs, in education, law, medicine . . . and they turn to their pewfellows with the aforementioned moan, for the church has been reluctant and backward to grant one step of official advance. Yet even the worldling knows that women are temperamentally attuned to accept the very human aspect of the Christian life, such as reaching out toward God with heart, soul, strength, mind, and loving a neighbor as oneself. It seems a little medieval to say to such a woman: "Sorry! You can aspire all you want to in the church pew of a Sunday, and perspire all you want to in the church kitchen of a Monday; but as for sitting behind our closed doors and planning plans, my good woman, now really!"

If you define the church as a PLACE: *"the house of God, where the membership comes together Sundays and week-days for meetings of various kinds"*—then you have made such a purely practical description that upkeep, dues, every-member canvasses, hiring and firing of workers rather closely approximates the life of a club; and indeed it is a club with privileges, powers, black-ballings, etc., which a purely man-run church has almost become. Women, of course, have done this or that about it: probably those who sew, meet to sew—and the naked have been clothed, from A to Z! Probably those who can cook, meet to cook—and the mouths of the deacons have watered from 6:00 to 7:00, once a month! Probably those who study, meet to study—and the whole round beautiful world has become real and dear, with incredible sums of money raised to relieve the tragedy unearthed here and there! But down in their hearts women know all this is not the whole church doing the work of the whole church. For it makes of each society another club, the men running THE club; they running the lesser ones, sometimes with rivalry and friction, each pulling to see who can gain the biggest names, the fattest treasury. No, this is not the church, at least not the church Christ loved and gave His life for.

Paul gave a difficult but glorious pattern for a real church in his letter to the Galatians, in the third chapter: *"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek* (no race discrimination), *there is neither male nor female* (no sex discrimination): *for ye are all one in Christ."*

Growing up in a minister's family brings an early understanding of the curious hypocrisy which church officialdom engenders. Year after year the recurring elections swing new persons into prominence; and, either scared or swaggering, they take their little moments in the sun in exact proportion to their honest reasons for accepting office—a helpful business or social contact; the lustre of importance; pleasure in discovering one's worth; and, above all, the fun of seeing the wheels go round.

But one quiet Sunday morning in this church with its dozen millionaires, where everyone liked to hold office and rub elbows with the great and near-great, the girl's father made a disarmingly dynamic experiment—the new officers were installed with a sermon based on Kipling:

> *"If drunk with sight of power we loose*
> *Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe,*
> *Such boastings as the Gentiles use*
> *And lesser breeds without the law,*
> *Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,*
> *Lest we forget, lest we forget."*

It was gentle and tender; it was startling and stern. Above all it was unforgettable. The rest of your life you looked your motives in the eye to see how "drunk with power" you were! And you matched your little earth-bound self against the great Master's self. And you learned what it meant to walk humbly with your God. For the real text was: "Paul I know, and Cephas I know, but who are you?" which amounts to saying: *This power you claim, I can't feel . . . are you sure it's genuine?*

The sermon put its finger on the really feudal spirit of a church run by men for men; where power shared with women would not be the power they enjoy most; . . . "bound to mean a lessening of prestige," "what a nuisance in readjustment," "who can tell how it would work out?" Who indeed! But meanwhile the women are making moan to their pewfellows. And those who feel really thwarted are going elsewhere. The college woman has taken her trained mind with its understanding of science and history into the League of Women Voters and kindred organizations. The business woman, sensing her boss' proclivity for

running both church and office with identical techniques, feels that the church has little scope for her talents and has taken her skills into unions and clubs. The professional woman has taken her intelligent concern for humanity into social and welfare agencies. The society woman has taken her money and her leisure into bridge clubs and religious cults—especially Healing Cults, if her hunger for self-expression has no outlet elsewhere.

This spells Waste to the church. The trustees might well think twice about the skills they are losing, not to mention women with incomes who could "balance the budget." The deacons might think twice about the wider ministry they could plan if they wanted the church to be the church: a home for "all people that on earth do dwell."

Instead of which, they groan that women are "likely to be a nuisance," they are "emotional," "biased," "no capacity for business affairs," "give too much attention to details." These familiar stereotypes from the "Status of Women" are partly true and partly false. All women are not a nuisance. Some women do run businesses with amazing success—great department stores, settlement houses, organizations of all kinds. They are judges, foreign diplomats and members of Congress. They are editors, doctors, lawyers, speakers.

Around 1840, the "General Association of Churches of Massachusetts" sent out a Pastoral Letter warning the churches throughout New England against women who spoke in "promiscuous assemblies": "when woman assumes the place and tone of a public reformer, she yields the power that God has given her for her protection, and her character has become unnatural. If the vine whose strength and beauty is to lean upon the trellis, thinks to assume the independence and overshadowing nature of the elm, it will fall in the dust in shame and dishonor. We therefore regret the mistaken conduct of those who encourage females to bear an obtrusive and ostentatious part in measures of reform, and we do not countenance any of that sex who so far forget themselves as to itinerate in the character of public lecturers and teachers."

It is always to be remembered that these dangerous women who would not lean properly on the trellis *jeopardized the status quo of the strong elms.* For it takes amazing grace to see someone grow into prominence in one's own field. But if the "outside" man has managed to accept women in posts equal to his own, where is that special Christian justice we expect to find flowering inside the church? Men must take office not for office's sake but for those everlasting intangible qualities which the Kingdom of God needs if it is to come on earth—beginning with us.

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Women Obliged To Bear Arms, Say Citizenship Case Attorney

The obligation of women citizens to bear arms was asserted by Government counsel in the United States Court of Appeals here yesterday.

The court was urged to reject the contentions of Mrs. Rebecca Shelley Rathmer, 53, that she is entitled to swear allegiance to the United States with the mental reservation that she will not fight in defense of the country because of pacifist convictions and religious scruples.

Born in Hawthorne, Pa., Mrs. Rathmer married Felix Martin Rathmer, a German engineer, August 3, 1922. If her marriage had been seven weeks later she would not have lost her citizenship because of the marriage, as the Cable Act was passed in September 22. However, the law in force on August 3, 1922, provided that an American woman who married an alien became of the nationality of her husband.

The Cable Act provided that who married aliens before September 22, 1922, as Mrs. Rathmer did, might regain their citizenship by taking the oath of allegiance, with its implication of willingness to bear arms.

Mrs. Rathmer refused to do this and has lost three previous court fights to obtain citizenship without deviating from her principles.

"The defense of democracy and the principles for which democracy stands," said the Government brief filed yesterday, "at no time have required greater support than at present. The march of current events in Europe substantiates the view that women no longer can be exempted, categorically, at least, from the obligation to bear arms."

Conceding that present law allows a native-born citizen to be a conscientious objector, but not a naturalized one, the brief quoted the Supreme Court as saying that Congress can change the law, "in the last extremity, to compel the armed service of any citizen in the land, without regard to his objections or his views in respect of the justice or morality of the particular war or war in general . . ."—*Washington Post.*

Doctor Annie Cannon, Famous Astronomer, Dies

Dr. Annie Jump Cannon of Harvard, most famous woman astronomer in the world, died April 13, 1941. She was 77 years old. Dr. Cannon, a native of Dover, Delaware, had been 44 years connected with the work of the Harvard University Observatory. She had been honored by the University of Delaware and many societies for her outstanding work. She was a member of the National Woman's Party.

The Wilmington *Morning News* of April 14, 1941, says of her:

Miss Cannon, who had been officially retired from Harvard last September, had been working at the Harvard Observatory on a special astronomical commission from Yale up to a few weeks ago.

In her life work at Harvard, she classified more stars than any other person in the world, being credited with the classification of almost 400,000 stellar bodies according to their spectra.

She also was the discoverer of more than 300 variable stars, five novae and one spectroscopic binary, or double star.

Native of Dover

A native of Dover, Del., she was interested in astronomy as a child, and made observations with the aid of a smoking candle from a candelabrum, which even today rests in the living room of her tiny residence—"Star Cottage"—close by Harvard Observatory.

(Miss Cannon learned first about the stars from her mother, who as a girl attended a Friends school which had a course in astronomy. With the information given her by Mrs. Cannon, the girl would climb into the attic of their home in Dover and through a trapdoor onto the roof, from where she would gaze through the limbs of the stately trees that surrounded the house at the heavens and pick out the constellations and larger stars.

(Before she left Dover to attend Wellesley College, she was well versed in an amateur study of astronomy. She also had taught herself the constellations from crude charts in an old astronomical book, most likely one her mother had used in school.

Candle Worried Father

(The tallow candle which she used in her attic study caused considerable worry for her father, Wilson Lee Cannon, builder of wooden ships and well-known politically

(Continued on Page 43)

Arms And The Women

Hand That Rocks The Cradle Now Guides Machine Tools

By INEZ ROBB

International News Service Staff Writer.

IN the vast arsenal of democracy that is now America, multitudes of women are at work today forging the sinews of war. From coast to coast, from border to border, a growing army of women works ceaselessly in factories, laboratories and offices to arm the United States and kindred nations struggling to keep the lamp of liberty alight in a darkening world.

Thousands of women are competent day laborers in factories scattered across the nation. They contribute skill and speed in the manufacture of planes, tanks, ships, gas masks, parachutes, radio and signaling equipment, barrage balloons, bullet-sealing gasoline tanks necessary to fighter planes, ammunition and ordnance.

Women are busy today as solderers, armature winders, spot welders, electro-platers, power sewing machine operators, punch and drill press operators, shell inspectors, etchers, barrel reamers, valve grinders, semi-skilled machine operators, light assembly work, packing and at a thousand and one jobs which dovetail into the defense program as a whole.

A smaller heirarchy of women executives work long hours to keep defense orders rolling and on time.

For example, Helen M. Blake, from her office in Newark, and Lulu M. Dryden from her office in Baltimore, deal in impressive iron and steel tonnages for defense industries. Miss Blake, president of two successful scrap iron companies, rounds up the scrap essential in the manufacture of steel for America's defense as her father did in the World War and her grandfather for the Union in the Civil War.

In the shadow of Coney Island, Anne Kavun, 23, is general manager of the Coney Island Electric Plating Works, now working overtime on airplane parts. In another Brooklyn district, Jeanne Tascarella manufactures hospital equipment for the Navy.

Whether they be Judy O'Grady or the Colonel's Lady, American women, without flourish or fanfare, have buckled down to the tough and titanic job of national and hemispheric defense. Whether they punch a time clock and swing a lunch pail in the nation's factories, sit in its board rooms or cerebrate in its laboratories, their end and aim is identical.

The nation's laboratories are blessed with a handful of rare women chemists and physicists whose work in pure science helps to form and shape the actual manufacture of planes and tanks and guns.

In the laboratories of the Aluminum Company of America at New Kensington Pa., Dr. Hertha R. Freche continues her X-ray research into the internal structure of aluminum. From the famed Freche excursions into pure science the nation's manufacturers of airplanes draw their knowledge of how aluminum will react under stress in their products.

In the General Electric Laboratories in Schenectady, Dr. Katharine Burr Blodgett, the distinguished discoverer of invisible glass, is at work on secret defense experiments. In this same laboratory, Catherine Ferguson is doing research on high temperature metals, most important in the defense program.

These are but a handful of the remarkable women doing remarkable jobs for a remarkable man, Uncle Sam. From the lathe to the laboratory they are but a tiny cross-section of American women at work on American defense.

The women of America have not waited to be drafted by Uncle Sam. But they have been drafted, none-theless. They have been drafted by industry itself! This is the most compelling and conspicuous truism uncovered by International News Service in the nation-wide survey of women in defense industries.

The staggering total of billions appropriated for defense and the resultant expansion of industry have been so gargantuan as to obscure until now one of the most important facets of the defense program industry's discovery that woman's particular aptitude for certain phases of both technical and nontechnical work make her a natural for doing essential and delicate tasks in defense industry.

But it is also universally true, and important to remember, that women have not been hired to replace men. In other words, she has seldom been hired to do a man's work unless there is an actual labor shortage in a given community or a shortage created by the Selective Service Act.

In the main, women have been hired for jobs for which nature herself has especially fitted them. Because womens' hands are small and her fingers nimble and dexterous, employers are finding her a godsend in the manufacture of delicate parts for planes, tanks, gas masks, guns, ammunition, ships, radios and parachutes.

"Women are employed because of the greater nimbleness of their fingers" is a phrase that appears like a litany when such corporations as General Motors, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., and the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. discuss the influx of women workers.

The world's artists and poets have made no mistake through the ages in depicting patience on a pedestal as a woman. Her manual dexterity and her abiding patience are sung again and again by companies employing her in numbers to equip the democratic world to fight for its life and death struggle for survival.

The precious union of skill and patience so essential in numbers of defense projects is ideally illustrated at the Goodrich plant in Akron. Here women are making the bullet-sealing gasoline tanks for planes and armored tanks.

"The manufacture of such tanks is very much like dressmaking and requires the same patience and skill as embroidery," officials of the company told me. "It is a delicate, painstaking job for which men have little aptitude. Even the women must have special rest periods throughout the day. But they do a magnificent job."—*Washington Post.*

WANTED

A NICE DESK FOR THE S. E. BEDROOM IN HEADQUARTERS.

Doctor Annie Cannon, Famous Astronomer, Dies

(Continued from Page 41)

in Dover before the Civil War. She had since remarked, "Father was more interested in the safety of the house than in the movements of the stars."

(She received her early education in the public school at Dover and at the Wilmington Conference Academy of that city. After her graduation from Wellesley, she spent the following 10 years at her home in Dover and then returned to college for advanced study in mathematics, physics and astronomy. She was a "volunteer assistant" in the research laboratory at Radcliffe before going to Harvard.)

She was the first woman ever to receive an honorary doctor's degree from Oxford University, and was the first woman ever to be elected an officer of the American Astronomical Society.

Among 12 Greatest

In 1929, she was listed among twelve "greatest living American women" chosen by the National League of Women Voters.

Her greatest single achievement was the classification of a quarter of a million stars to make up the famed Henry Draper catalogue for international use—a work that won her the Henry Draper medal of the National Academy of Science in 1931.

Miss Cannon since has worked on the extension of that catalogue, and in her most recent work for Yale, was engaged in a "wholesale" classification of stars in a selected zone extending all around the heavens.

A graduate of Wellesley in 1884, she came to Harvard as an assistant in 1897. She was stationed at Harvard Observatory in Arequipa, Peru for a time, and in 1911 became curator of astronomical photographs at Harvard. In 1938, she was named William Cranch Bond astronomer.

Stars Almost Spoke

In her cataloguing work, she determined classification by studies of thousands of telescopic photographs of the heavens, listing certain constituent elements of the stars through observance of their various spectrum lines.

"They aren't just streaks to me," she once said, "each new spectrum is the gateway to a wonderful new world. It is almost as if the distant stars had really acquired speech and were able to tell of their constitution and physical condition."

In her latter years, she often deplored the fact that women in science once were subject to ridicule.

Studies Were Shocking

"When one sees the crowds of careless and free college girls of today," she said, "it is hard to conceive of the time when mathematical or other scientific study by girls was so shocking to the conceptions of mankind that she must needs do all her study secretly at night with a candle by her bedside."

Preferring starlight to limelight, she spoke little of herself during infrequent interviews, but always put the accent on the role of women in general in the science of astronomy which she termed an international "diplomacy of the skies."

Solace in Stars

"We could but wish," she once remarked, "that the legitimate work of young women toward increasing our insight into the true nature of the stars and the physical laws of the universe could drive out the superstitious middleage belief in horoscopes and astrology which still besets the minds of so many women, even in this country."

It was her belief that the inter-change of ideas among astronomers did much to promote amity among nations, but at the outbreak of the war in Europe in 1939, she said:

"In these days of great trouble and unrest, it is good to have something outside our own planet, something fine and distant and comforting to troubled minds. Let people look to the stars for comfort and find solace as others have."

She held honorary degrees from the University of Delaware, University of Gronigen, Holland, Mt. Holyoke, Oglethorpe University, Georgia, and Wellesley, and was a member of many scientific societies.

She was one of the few honorary members of the Royal Astronomical Society of London.

"My success, if you would call it that," she once told an interviewer, "lies in the fact that I have kept at my work all these years. It is not genius, or anything like that, it is merely patience."

Women Agree

The temporary National Economic Committee in its final report has drawn this pertinent conclusion, "Political freedom cannot survive if economic freedom is lost." This truth applies to women as well as to men, and is the reason why the National Woman's Party has insisted that labor legislation apply to men and women alike.

Laws Against Married Women

Four states, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, and Minnesota have laws disqualifying from unemployment insurance benefits married women who are forced out of their jobs because of marriage. In Wisconsin a similar bill has passed the Senate. In Minnesota a bill is pending to repeal the law.

Ohio Republicans Endorsed The Amendment

"We favor Congressional submission of a constitutional amendment to the several states providing for equal rights for men and women. We pledge approval of such amendment by the General Assembly of Ohio."

This positive statement by the Ohio Republican Convention drew support to the Party of many women in the business and professional classes. The next move is up to Republican delegation in Congress.

—From *The Republican Gazette*, the oldest Republican paper in Ohio.

Eastern Regional Conference

The Eastern Regional Conference of the N. W. P. will be held in the Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, June 6, 7 and 8, 1941.

All members of the Party are invited.

PUBLICATIONS

The Equal Rights Amendment ..... $ .05
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HIGHLIGHTS

EXTRACTS FROM PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MIDWEST CONFERENCE OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN, FEB. 21-23, 1941

MRS. CLARA M. KELLEY, *General Chairman*

MISS MATILDA FENBERG, presiding. * * * Let us devote this discussion to the subject of how we can protect the rights of women through legislation. * * * We are to listen to what our representatives from the various states who are here will tell us regarding the status of women in their own states. * * * This morning we have eight states represented here.

* * *

IOWA

Introducing: MISS CLARA FRENZEL, Seventh District Governor of the Quota Club, who read a message from Miss Stenzer, member of the Board of the Iowa Federation of B. & P. W.

"As to laws discriminatory to women in Iowa, there are two very minor ones—namely, one in reference to personal property and certain dower rights; the other, that women cannot under the law determine where the family domicile shall be."

We have not had so many laws coming up in Iowa lately, but I feel there is one point we must watch. It will not be laws that will be bothering us in the next few years, but there will be something brought up to take away our opportunity to advance. During the last months as District Governor of the Quota Club, I have had the privilege of traveling through Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Illinois, and Iowa. Some weeks ago, while working in Minnesota on a new Quota Club, I found a large organization that had replaced every woman in executive position with a man. In fact, that is the thing we are going to be faced with. In many places they are doing everything possible to take positions away from women and they are bringing that out through the fact that they say they will be married or they are needed in the home. Laws are something that we will have to face, but this is the next thing that we are going to have to face, and I think we should be awake to it.

* * *

INDIANA

MISS BUTLER, President, Indiana Federation of Business and Professional Women: * * * We are fortunate in Indiana to have very few discriminations, and so I have brought the statute and I will read it to you just as it is on our books in Indiana, for one of them is very amusing, I think.

"Employment of Minors and Females. No male person under the age of eighteen years or female of any age shall be permitted to enter any mine in this state for the purpose of employment therein, and the parents or guardians of boys shall be required to furnish an affidavit as to the age of said boys when there is any doubt in regard to their age. And in the case of such boys applying for work, the operator of any mine shall see that the provisions of this section are not violated."

That is on the statutes regarding women, and that is rather amusing to us, inasmuch as one of our past state presidents has been an owner of a coal mine in Clinton, and she said, "Oh, well, no woman wants to work in the mines anyway." She said it didn't upset her much. We have given that very little consideration or concern.

Then there is another statute in Indiana that we feel is somewhat discriminatory. It is regarding illegitimate children. It reads as follows:

"Illegitimate children inheriting from the mother: Illegitimate children shall inherit from their mothers as if they were legitimate; and through the mother, if dead, any property or estate which she would, if living, have taken by gift, devise or descent from any other person, they shall inherit."

* * * If any man dying intestate and having acknowledged said child or children during his lifetime as his own, shall inherit his estate, both real and personal, and shall be deemed and taken to be heir or heirs of such intestate in the same manner and to the same extent as if the child or children had been legitimate, *provided that the testimony of the mother of such child or children shall not have been used to establish their identity.* * * *"

We women in Indiana feel that that is an injustice. If it is known, even though he may not have publicly announced it, we feel that perhaps those illegitimate children are being done a great injustice, and so we believe that if the mother is responsible, he too, should be. And so some of us feel that that is a discrimination, although it is not mentioned as such.

In the present session of our legislature there has come a bill that is being presented which is discriminatory. It is rather amusing to some of us, but nevertheless discriminatory. It reads something like this: That no woman shall enter a tavern and be permitted to sit upon a stool at the bar.

And of course we are amused at that, and I think it will not be very far advanced in our legislature.

Then, too, we have a bill we feel we should support as women, because it is to this effect: In Indiana we have a poll tax, and men pay three dollars per capita. The bill presented this year—and incidentally the bill was fostered by a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club from Crawfordsville (she is a member of the legislature) is that there shall be a poll tax assessed upon all women at one dollar and a half per capita, and the existing poll tax that is now in effect for men should also be reduced to one dollar and a half per capita per year.

We know that is as it should be in Indiana. We feel that we ask for favors and that we should be glad to take care of obligations, and that is our obligation to our government.

* * *

MICHIGAN

MISS HAZEL MEYERS, President, Federation of Business and Professional Women: In reviewing the laws of Michigan, not equal for men and women, we find that it is not at all a bad place for women to live and work. In fact, in very many cases, it is a much better place than many other states. In some instances it is much better to be a woman than a man, since a man is the one getting the poorer lot. However, the basis of these discriminations goes back to the protective angle and is not exactly our desire for equality under the law.

In general a woman's civil rights are the same as man's. One serious point of unequality is in regard to

a married woman's right to be a co-partner with her husband, or her right to become a surety for someone else. This discrimination we hope to eliminate in this session of legislature. A bill has been introduced in the Senate giving a married woman full right to contract as if she were unmarried.

There are only a few instances in which the right to work is denied to women only, although these have not been considered very serious. For one thing, women are barred from work on certain kinds of abrasives, and they may not be required to remain standing constantly at their work, and they may be barred from employment under conditions deemed to be detrimental to their health, welfare, morals, or safety. Also, no married women may conduct a business of her own without her husband's consent, unless he is unable or unwilling to support her himself.

There is no hours restriction which applies only to women, except a 9 hour day, 54 hour week which applies to certain types of work. *At present there is no minimum wage law that applies only to women. In fact, Michigan has a law which requires that men and women shall get equal pay for equal work in certain types of manufacturing jobs. This law was recently upheld by the Supreme Court in a test case with General Motors.* However, at the beginning of this year's session of legislature a minimum wage bill was introduced simultaneously in both the Senate and the House providing a minimum wage of $16 a week with no exceptions for women only. These bills we do not expect will come out of committee, but we are watching them carefully.

In matters on marriage, divorce, and support of children or family, the woman has quite generally the better of the man. A mother is not liable for the support of the children unless her husband is incapacitated. However, a mother may not be entitled to the earnings of a child unless the father is dead. In matters of holding property and willing same, a woman has much more privilege than a man.

Now in Michigan, it would seem that the laws in general are quite generous to women, but we are constantly needing to be on guard for discriminatory legislation of one sort or another. For this reason, we are quite willing to forego a few cases where the law would give us the advantage, in order to have equal rights in all cases, and to be confident that in this we are secure.

* * *

MINNESOTA

MRS. RUTH MARKLE, President, Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women: I, too, am a watcher, because in Minnesota we have had such very efficient legislative chairmen, and they have been on their toes every minute. Today we have an efficient chairman, Mrs. Shephard, who is our Vice-President, and also our State Legislative Chairman, and she is a very common visitor at our capitol.

The laws in Minnesota are comparatively good, and, as a matter of fact, the laws of California are about the only state that surpass the Minnesota laws, as far as the application of the laws are concerned. We have had jury service for women since 1923, and women have the right to contract just the same as men, married or unmarried. They have the right to sue and be sued; they have the right to own property, after marriage as before. The divorce laws are the same between men and women. As to the necessities of life, both are responsible in the same degree. The guardianship of the children is the same. One thing we do have is maximum hours and minimum wages for women only. We have a fifty-four hour week for females and children. *We, in Minnesota, do resent the fact that women and children are classed together instead.* But eventually we will have that taken care of.

Married women do have some restrictions, not according to law, but according to different business concerns in Minnesota. Some concerns immediately let help go, who are married while employed, and in our state compensation laws that is one thing: Our state unemployment association does not have to pay unemployment pay to any married woman who is dismissed after marriage, if the employer has this law posted saying that immediately upon marriage that employee will be dismissed.

That is something in our state compensation laws that Minnesota hopes to do something about, but as yet hasn't been able to.

Our tax laws in Minnesota apply equally to men and women. Perhaps this is a bit of discrimination where it has to do with parents and children: The father is, as a matter of fact, entitled to the wages of his minor son. And in the matter of political discriminations we have the law that the husband has the right to choose a place of residence for his wife and his minor children. Other than that, we have had very few discriminatory laws.

Our legislative chairman, through the fine cooperation she has had throughout the state, has been able to kill a bill in committee against the married woman worker where she is employed by the state and where the combined income from any source is more than $150 a month. This was killed in committee. Then the minority report was put on the floor, and here again it was killed. We were told last week that it might be brought up again, but we are practically assured that it will be again killed, because we do have fine friends among the representatives and they are doing everything they can to protect women in their constitutional rights.

(Reports from four other states will appear in the June issue.)

Resolution Endorsing The Amendment

The Women's Municipal Employees League of Detroit adopted the following resolution on March 20, 1941:

"Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States has declared that women have only one constitutional right—that of suffrage, and

Whereas, There are over 1,000 laws existing in the United States which discriminate against women in all spheres such as civil, economic, political, and industrial, and

Whereas, The legal status of women will always be inferior to that which men enjoy until the equal rights amendment is incorporated into the Constitutrial, and

Whereas, The proposed equal rights amendment will permanently extend to women the same constitutional and legal rights that men enjoy, therefore be it

Resolved, That the WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES LEAGUE OF DETROIT heartily endorse the equal rights amendment on March 18, 1941, and be it further

Resolved, That each of the nineteen members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation, during this Equal Rights Week of March 17 through 24, receive a copy of this resolution as a manifestation of the League's sincere desire that Congress pass this amendment during the present session in order that it may be presented to the states for ratification."

ANN STEELE,
President.

Extracts From A Letter To Alice Paul From Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence of England

11 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W. C. 2.
March 5th, 1941.

"Now that I know for certain that you have returned to the States, I want to congratulate you very heartily on the splendid determination and resource with which you kept the headquarters working for more than a year of actual war. I can imagine the difficulties with which you must have had to contend.

"It needs no words to make you realize how entirely impossible it has been in this country to carry out any active campaign not directly related to the war. I was obliged to leave London and make my headquarters in this very small house in the depths of the country. When I tell you that it was built to accommodate two people at the weekend and it has now to accommodate five people week in and week out, you will realize how very much my life has changed. One after another amenities have disappeared. The chauffeur was "called up," the car had to be placed in dock, it is extremely difficult to get domestic help of any kind, we are eight miles from the shops and principle station to London, catering is a great problem and life is a path beset with briars.

"Dorothy Evans, with her wonderful energy for devotion to duty, has managed to surmount some of the obstables and has kept the woman's movement alive in a wonderful way. Present circumstances have changed our line of approach in working for woman's equality and I hope and believe that a real change is taking place, on the part of certain influential sections of the voters. For instance, the three great Trade Unions—Transport, Electricity and Engineering which are the most important—have definitely taken the line that women shall now receive the same standard of wages as that laid down for men. This is a big move; although we recognize that it has been taken rather to safeguard men's economic position than to help women to secure equality, but it is a significant sign of the development of modern ideas. The women members of parliament are also carrying out a very excellent campaign to secure equal pensions for women who are injured by enemy action. The proposed conscription of women is being watched in the House of Commons particularly by women members, and I believe it will mark another step onward in the acceptance of the equal position of men and women. On the other hand, there is a definite opposition on the part of the Government and the Treasury against any effort to raise women's economic status either by equalization in wages or pensions or in any other way. There is a great tendency on the part of the Government, to exploit the work of women, and women themselves I am sorry to say in large numbers are prepared to accept this opposition without a murmur. So you see the struggle still goes on although the forces are somewhat differently aligned.

"As a member of many progressive societies who are putting forward programmes for 'after the war reconstruction,' I find the same tendency to ignore the essential service of women to the country or to acknowledge their economic value. In every case where I have any influence, I bring this matter to the front and I usually find that it is easy to make my point.

"I know you feel you belong to Europe and the whole world as well as to your country. Your thoughts will be with us. Knowing how you feel about things in general, I feel sure that you will regard this war as I do, as a great cosmic event and that whatever happens to individuals or to nations, the great Divine purposes are being achieved and that all events will play their own part in the evolution of human history.

"With warmest appreciation of all that your life signifies and thankfulness to the great powers which acting through you have accomplished so much.

"Ever yours, with love, gratitude and admiration,

"Signed EMMELINE PETHICK-LAWRENCE."

Favors Equal Rights

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
National Honorary Fraternity for Women in Education
California State Organization

Rt. Box 3849, Sacramento, Cal.
April 8, 1941.

Mrs. Amy Ransome,
1st Vice-President, National Woman's Party.

Dear Mrs. Ransome:

At the request of Marjorie Ward of Los Angeles, I am sending you the following:

The State Board of Delta Kappa Gamma at its meeting March 15, 1941 went on record, giving full support to California Assembly Constitution Amendment No. 13, concerning equal rights. The members of our fraternity are happy to add their support wherever it will help in this matter.

We are all interested in having a better opportunity for promotions and for an equal salary for the same services as the men.

Sincerely yours,
Signed LOTTIELLEN JOHNSON, *Chairman,*
State Legislation Committee.

Equal Pay To Women

I

April 21, 1941.

Mr. Peter J. Bidmar, Secretary-Treasurer,
Federation of Glass, Ceramic and Silica Sand Workers of America,
85 E. Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Bidmar:

May I take this opportunity to thank you as secretary-treasurer of the Federation of Glass, Ceramic and Silica Sand Workers of America for the clause in your union's contract which grants equal pay to women doing substantially the same work as men.

I have been active for the past six years in the interest of equal rights for men and women. I know from personal observation that to treat women as a special labor group is to treat them unfairly. Equal pay for equal work is the only solution, not only for the women's protection but also for the men's.

I am happy to see that your union has taken the only fair stand possible in the matter of wages.

Faithfully,
HELEN ROBBINS BITTERMANN.

* * *

II

"In the steel industry, women formerly receiving 56c an hour were given an increase of 16½c, bringing the rate up to 72½c. This eliminates the wage differential between men and women engaged in the same type of work."

(From a letter to C. L. B. from Ralph Hetzel, Jr., Director, Economic Division, Congress of Industrial Organizations. May 3, 1941.

World Woman's Party

By WINIFRED MALLON

ORGANIZATION of the World Woman's Party and the establishment of its European Committee in the Palais Wilson of the old League of Nations building in Geneva, was announced last week in Washington, future international headquarters of the world organization, by Miss Alice Paul, founder and President.

Organization of continental committees for North America, Latin America, Australia, Asia, and Africa will proceed without delay, and meetings will be held, simultaneously, in August, of all committees functioning at that time, Miss Paul said. The European committee, organized less than two months ago, already is planning a mass meeting to be held this month in Geneva, according to a report received by Miss Paul from Miss Louise C. A. van Eeghen, of Holland, vice-chairman.

Both announcements were made by Miss Paul on the eve of her own departure for Canada, where the first meeting of the Continental Committee for North America will be held in August, probably in Montreal.

Two western Canadian groups, the Women's Club of Winnipeg, and the Women's Club of Calgary, are among the supporting societies more than twenty of which in all parts of the world are aligned with the World Woman's Party, Miss Paul said. Montreal is indicated as the logical choice for the proposed meeting, she believes, because it will be a more convenient meeting place than Washington for women from all parts of the Dominion, and no less accessible, and more attractive, in August, to women from the United States. Also, Montreal now, is the home, temporarily at least, of the International Labor Office, which established a working center there on its withdrawal from Geneva last year.

Since October, when a major part of the key personnel of the I. L. O. was transferred to Montreal, it has been functioning there in quarters made available by McGill University, under the direction, since last February, of Edward J. Phelan, of the Irish Free State. Formerly assistant, and then deputy director, Mr. Phelan, long associated with the I. L. O., "took over" from Director John G. Winant on the appointment of the latter as Ambassador to Great Britain.

It was because of the strategic importance of Geneva as the headquarters of the League of Nations and I. L. O. that the World Woman's Party established its first international headquarters in the Swiss City.

Incorporated in Washington in November, 1938, the new international group took possession in April, 1939, of the Villa Bartholoni on Lake Geneva, which was formally opened in August of that year. Two weeks later war was declared.

"Delayed but not deterred by the ever-increasing difficulties of communication and transportation, the women of Europe, inspired to new efforts as they found themselves bereft of such hard won freedoms as were theirs, continued with persistence and devotion the organization of the Party, and its European Committee, completed last March," Miss Paul said.

"Meanwhile, our headquarters became the refuge and asylum of many of our members, and in some cases of their husbands and children, when, forced from their own countries they were confronted with the innumerable difficulties of reestablishment elsewhere.

"Fourteen nationalities were represented at our first Christmas Party held at the Villa Bartholoni, in December of 1939, and thereafter we had with us, for varying periods, refugee members and guests of English, French, Austrian and Polish birth; Germans of all faiths, Catholics, Lutherans and Jews; Roumanians, Czechoslovakians, Hungarians and one Italian.

"All this, of course, was quite aside from our originally planned activities, but inevitably and unavoidably became a part of them in the tragic situation created by the war. And we are glad to have been able to alleviate in some degree the immense distress of so many of our members in war torn Europe."

As soon as possible after the organization meeting in March, the Villa Bartholoni was closed, and with it the first, and unexpectedly dramatic, chapter in the history of the World Woman's Party.

At the long delayed organization meeting, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, of England, was elected Honorary President and Miss Paul to serve as President, of the new international group.

Twelve vice-presidents were elected: Miss Marie Lenoel of Paris, president of the Joan of Arc Society of France, who was chosen to head the European Committee; Miss Louise C. A. van Eeghen, who is now directing its activities pending the return of Miss Lenoel, who is in France arranging her affairs preliminary to taking up residence in Geneva for the coming year (Miss van Eeghen was in Geneva when war was declared, and has remained there ever since); Mrs. Linda P. Littlejohn of Sydney, Australia; Mme. Marie Lachenal, of Switzerland; Mrs. George Haskell, of Brookline, Mass.; Mme. Riebermohn, of Oslo; Mrs. Hastings Grey (formely Miss Erica Butler Bowden), of London, England; Dr. Hanna Rydh, of Stockholm; Mrs. Margaret Cousins, of India; Miss Hilda Yen, of China; Mrs. Hannah Sheehy Skeffington, of Dublin; and Muna Lee, of Porto Rico.

The other officers elected were Mrs. Frieda Beerli, of Switzerland, honorary secretary; Mrs. Amy Ransome, of California, treasurer; Mrs. Alfred Strong Thompson, of Washington, D. C., membership chairman, with Mlle. Helene Perrier, of Switzerland, as assistant chairman; and, as Chaplain, Mme. Louise Rolli, of Paris.

At this meeting also the amalgamation was voted of the Equal Rights International headed by Mrs. Linda P. Littlejohn, with the World Woman's Party.

Affiliation with the World Woman's Party was voted by two English organizations, the Six Point Club, founded by Lady Rhondda, and the Women's Guild of Empire, headed by Mrs. Flora Drummond, of London.

Texas

Owing to the resignation of Mrs. A. P. Winston, long the able Chairman of our Texas Branch of the N. W. P., Mrs. Clyde L. Garrett, Eastland, Texas, has been chosen as Chairman of Texas. Mrs. Garrett is the wife of the former Congressman from the 17th District of Texas. We are fortunate that Mrs. Garrett has consented to serve.

The Texas House of Representatives has recently passed a proposed Constitutional Amendment to permit women to serve on juries.

The death of Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas deprives us of a noble friend.

A Feminist Thinks It Over

By ALMA LUTZ

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

AMONG certain groups in the United States, an attitude toward women is being expressed which is entirely out of line with the ideals of representative, free government. This is a direct warning to the women of this country that they need the Equal Rights Amendment not only to protect them from arbitrary action by backward states, but to raise their value and their dignity in the minds of men legislators and people everywhere.

In Massachusetts, which once was the champion of freedom and justice, women last month were insultingly treated in the lower House of the Legislature in connection with the Women Jurors Bill. For twenty years women in Massachusetts have been asking for jury service. This year the jury bill was sponsored by the three women legislators who put up a determined fight to put it through. As usual there was a hearing to be proud of with evidence of an impressive demand from women for jury service. As usual the Judiciary Committee reported the bill adversely. But the women legislators were not to be stopped, and through their efforts the House overturned the adverse report and referred the bill to the Committee on Counties. This committee was to consider the bill in the light of the additional facilities which would be required in county courthouses if women served as jurors. One of the leading arguments of the opposition for years has been the tremendous expense of fitting up courthouses to accommodate women. When the bill came up again in the House, it was advanced with an amendment offered by Representative Donlan, providing that wives be required to obtain the written consent of their husbands before they could qualify for jury service. Not satisfied with this little joke, he offered another amendment providing for a medical examination for prospective women jurors. In explanation he argued that women would be under a severe strain in the courtroom, and if a woman juror fainted and a mistrial were declared, the state would be put to unnecessary expense. He served notice on women that a "counter-revolution" was under way. Representative Donlan is not an old man with an antiquated attitude toward women. He is a young man with college training who has a philosophy which has become familiar to us in the past few years.

The debate on the bill was maudlin. The whole matter was regarded as a huge joke, and when the men had had their fun, the bill was defeated. For two more years Massachusetts women will be deprived of a trial by a jury of their peers.

Not content to turn the clock back in one instance only, Massachusetts made anothed thrust at women. In spite of protests from women teachers, the Boston School Committee recently voted that in the intermediate grades men teachers would receive higher salaries than women teachers. This was voted in the face of evidence presented which showed that women had consistently higher ratings than the men on examinations for appointments and that the women teachers had more dependents than the men.

But Massachusetts is not the only state to insult women. From Georgia comes the report that the Georgia Senate, before tabling a bill making women eligible for jury service, added an amendment requiring that in order to be allowed to serve as a juror, a woman must have won a beauty contest within two years, be less than 45 years old, and wear perfume agreeable to the judge and attorneys.

Women voters have the power to see that men who make such a travesty of justice and who value women so lightly are not re-elected.

Unity

On many subjects Democrats and Republicans differ, but there is one question which they apparently view with unanimity. A consideration of their legislation and their platforms reveal that they are united in their support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Take the Republicans. We are never tired of quoting the plank embodied in their Philadelphia platform, of June, 1940, reading: "We favor submission by Congress to the States of an amendment to the Constitution providing for equal rights for men and women."

The Democrats did not adopt such a plank. The Democrats preferred to stand on their record. Why talk if one has acted? And what is the Fair Labor Standards Act but a law giving men and women equal opportunity in the industries it affects? Concerning the constitutionality of this piece of Democratic legislation, the Supreme Court, in the Darby Lumber case, Feb. 3, 1941, has upheld the law and declared that minimum wage and maximum hour legislation may now be applied to men as well as women. A party which enacts a great principle into law would naturally be anxious to enthrone that principle in the only place where it is safe—the constitution of the United States. That is where statements of principles belong. That is the American way to preserve principles of government. Transient justice may be acquired by federal legislation, state legislation and even by state constitutions, but permanent justice for men and women can be gained only by means of the Federal Constitution.

The Equal Rights Amendment, embodying this belated act of justice to men and women, is now before the Judiciary Committee of each House. Why delay? Great and controversial questions are being discussed, and settled. But an easier task awaits. Unity prevails on the question of equal treatment for men and women. If the people of the United States are offering themselves as a pattern for the world, let us be sure the women of the country are as favorably woven into that pattern as the men. PASS THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT NOW.

CAROLINE LEXOW BABCOCK.

The Garden Of Alva Belmont House

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were entertained by the District Branch and the Government Workers Council of the N. W. P. at a garden tea at 5:30 o'clock where they presented a program of their beautiful dances, such as Kirby Sword, Lads a bunchum, Leap Frog, Double Set-Back, The Gallant Hussar—dances which date back as far as the fifteenth century.

These dances were collected by Cecil Sharpe who trained many of the teachers of dancing at Fairhope. At the Fairhope School the students participate in the various types of folk-dancing from kindergarten through High School. Dancing is a "must" in their curriculum. Every child dances every day. It is considered basically important in the physical development of the child. The School was founded by Marietta Johnson, a member of the Woman's Party. Rather than the three R's it emphasizes an environment in which the body, mind and spirit may develop.